

Message Text

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10

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 HEW-08 SS-15

NSC-10 OIC-04 AF-10 ARA-11 NEA-10 RSR-01 /149 W

----- 070328

R 131612 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6537

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 1469

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: WHO KS KN NO

SUBJECT: 26 TH WHA: NORTH KOREAN APPLICATION FOR WHO MEMBERSHIP

REF: STATE 65086

BEGIN SUMMARY. THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA EMBASSY HAS ASKED US TO SUPPORT ITS DEMARCHES TO THE NORWEGIAN GOVT ON NORTH KOREAN MEMBERSHIP IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE PROVIDE INSTRUCTIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING A CALL ON AN EMBOFF ON APRIL 13, SOUTH KOREAN CHARGE D' AFFAIRES JAY HEE OH SAID HE HAD DELIVERED AN AIDE MEMOIRE ON APRIL 4 TO POLITICAL DIRECTOR VIBE AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, REQUESTING NORWAY TO OPPOSE NORTH KOREAN MEMBERSHIP AT THE MAY WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY. VIBE RESPONDED THAT HE COULD GIVE NO INDICATION OF WHAT THE NORWEGIAN POSITION WOULD BE AND THAT HIGHER- LEVEL DECISION WOULD BE REQUIRED. OH ASSUMES (AND WE AGREE) THAT, GIVEN THE RECENT ACTION ON RECOGNITION BY THE NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS, THE WHO ISSUE WILL ALSO HAVE TO BE DECIDED AT
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CABINET LEVEL.

2. OH IS WORKING ENERGETICALLY ON THE MATTER AND MENTIONED OTHER APPROACHES:

-- HE HAS TALKED WITH BORDE, CHIEF OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S UN DIVISION, BUT GIVEN BORDE'S PREOCCUPATION WITH THE UN/OAU CONFERENCE ON AFRICA NOW IN SESSION IN OSLO, HE IS UNABLE TO FOCUS ON KOREA UNTIL AFTER EASTER.

-- HE HAS REQUESTED AN APPOINTMENT WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDER SECY SVENNEVIG.

-- DURING A COURTESY CALL ON APRIL 12 HE FOUND THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS (WHO HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF WHO ACTIVITIES) SYMPATHETIC TO THE ROK POSITION AND ELICITED FROM HER A PROMISE TO DISCUSS IT WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER.

-- HE REPORTED TO SEOUL THAT FONMIN VAARVIK IS MAKING AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO OTTAWA THIS WEEK, AND HE HAS LEARNED THAT THE KOREAN EMBASSY THERE HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO ASK THE CANADIAN FONMIN TO PUT IN A GOOD WORD WITH VAARVIK.

3. OH SAID HE UNDERSTOOD FROM SEOUL THAT US EMBASSIES WERE ALSO BEING INSTRUCTED ON THE WHO ISSUE, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARA 7 OF REFTEL WE CONFIRMED OUR WILLINGNESS TO BE HELPFUL, ADDING THAT WE WOULD SEEK IMMEDIATE INSTRUCTIONS. WE TOLD OH THAT WE ASSUMED WE WOULD, IN FACT, BE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE A SUPPORTING DEMARCHE TO THE NORWEGIANS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT WE BE INSTRUCTED AS TO NEXT STEPS. CROWE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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